



**ALAMEDA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT (ACBHD)
ADDENDUM No. 2 WITH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
TO
REQUEST FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION (RFPQ) 26-05
SPECIFICATIONS, TERMS & CONDITIONS
FOR
*EATING DISORDER TREATMENT SERVICES***

This County of Alameda RFPQ Addendum has been electronically issued to potential bidders via e-mail. E-mail addresses used are those in the County's Small Local Emerging Business (SLEB) Vendor Database or from other sources. If you have registered or are certified as a SLEB, please ensure that the complete and accurate e-mail address is noted and kept updated in the SLEB Vendor Database. This RFPQ Addendum will also be posted on the GSA Contracting Opportunities website located at

[Contracting Opportunities](#) | [General Services Agency - Alameda County](#)

RESPONSES TO BIDDER'S QUESTIONS

Scope of Service

Q1. Is this program intended primarily for individuals who are actively experiencing an eating disorder, or can it also serve individuals who are in recovery and need ongoing support to maintain recovery and prevent relapse?

A1. The RFPQ is intended for programs that serve individuals who are actively experiencing an eating disorder or still need targeted eating disorder-specific treatment for their recovery. If individuals are actively in recovery and no longer need eating disorder-specific treatment, ACBHD would refer them for ongoing support with an outpatient provider.

Q2. Can services be provided through a combination of telehealth and in-person care? Are there specific services or levels of care that must be provided in person?

A2. Yes, services can be provided through telehealth and/or in-person provided in-person services are within 100 miles of Alameda County and telehealth services are provided by a practitioner licensed in California (Page 5).

Q3. Given that "the County does not guarantee any minimum or maximum dollar amount of any awarded scope of services under this contract" (RFPQ 3), what historically has been the total number of clients needing these services annually and at what level of intensity and duration?

A3. A typical length of stay in Residential, Partial Hospitalization (PHP), or Intensive Outpatient (IOP) is 4 to 6 weeks, but this can vary depending on the client's acuity and willingness to stay in treatment. Over the last few fiscal years, ACBHD had served around 20 individuals per year, with most of those individuals being adolescents or Transition Age Youth.

Q4. What has been the typical number of clients per week per level of service intensity (residential, php, iop, outpatient) per selected service provider?

A4. The number of clients per week varies greatly according to need. Many clients will move up or down between levels of care based on their acuity and progress in recovery. Due to the age of the clients and the need to wait for program openings, some providers may serve multiple ACBHD clients at a time and other providers will not serve any.

Q5. Regarding Section Page 3, – "Through this RFPQ, ACBHD seeks specialized ED treatment services, and not standard mental health outpatient service providers...", if an established behavioral health agency is launching a dedicated pilot program track, does the County/Funder consider the experience threshold satisfied if the agency demonstrates:

- 1) A multi-year history of identifying and treating individuals from the priority population integrated within its existing clinical programs; and
- 2) A core clinical and supervisory team whose individual professional experience serving this priority population exceeds the one-year minimum?"

A5. Per the Bidder Qualification Criteria, Bidders must have at least one year of experience providing Eating Disorder treatment services to the priority population.

Q6. Reference: Page 3, Section [Insert Section # if known] – "Through this RFPQ, ACBHD seeks specialized ED treatment services, and not standard mental health outpatient service providers...", will the County evaluate a proposer's specialized capability based on the operational history of their current programs, the accumulated experience of their individual professionals, or a combination of both when determining their qualifications to establish and operate this specialty Eating Disorder program?

A6. Both the history of Bidders' current services treating eating disorders and clinician/supervisory ability to provide eating disorder-specific treatment are qualifications for this RFPQ.

Q7. For proposals under the 'Specialized Eating Disorder Services' modality that propose new or emerging treatment models, is there a specific rubric or preferred format for demonstrating the evidence-base of these modalities, beyond standard peer-reviewed citations?

A7. No, there is no specific rubric or preferred format for proposals that include Specialized ED Services.

Q8. While EBP are required, given that there is a need to serve the underserved population in AC, are Community Defined Evidence Practices acceptable?

A8. Yes, Community Defined Evidence Practices are acceptable. Bidders may propose new and emerging ED treatment modalities (page 3).

Budget

Q9. Does this contract pay for the non-BH Providers such as licensed dieticians?

A9. Yes, as noted on page 5 of the RFPQ, a licensed dietician may be part of the specialized ED services. ACBHD does not specifically contract for dietician services. Dietician services are a responsibility of the Managed Care Plan.

Q10. Is this a Fee For Service (FFS) contract? If yes, please provide the rates for the various levels of services.

A10. No, this will not be an FFS contract but reimbursed based on a daily rate. Bidders may propose rates for the various levels of service.

Q11. Is this an Actual Cost Reimbursement contract?

A11. No, costs will be reimbursed on a rate basis.

Q12. Is this a combination of a FFS and an Actual Cost Reimbursement contract?

A12. No, costs will be reimbursed on a rate basis.

Q13. Reference page 3 “Bidders applying for Specialized ED services may propose new and emerging ED treatment modalities, pending ACBHD review and approval”, how much and via what reimbursement method will the new and emerging treatment services be funded?

A13. Bidders may propose rates for the various levels of service. All proposed rates are subject to ACBHD review and approval.

Staff

Q14. Will the County allow registered associates and/or waived associates (e.g., AMFT, Waivered and Registered Psychological Associates) to provide treatment services under the supervision of a licensed clinician, or must all mental health treatment providers be fully licensed?

A14. Not all staff are required to be licensed. Bidders may propose a staffing structure that they believe best supports service delivery. ACBHD will review proposed staffing structure to determine if there is adequate clinical supervision for staff. Residential treatment, partial hospitalization, and intensive outpatient programs must provide the elements described in the RFPQ.

Q15. Given the multidisciplinary nature of specialized eating disorder care, will this contract reimburse the services of all core specialized providers—specifically Registered Dietitians (RDs), specialized Psychiatrists, and Medical Professionals—in addition to licensed and waived/associate mental health clinicians?

A15. The contract will be reimbursed on a daily rate per service level, not per staff providing service. Bidders may propose a staffing structure that they believe best supports service delivery.

Q16. Must the contractor directly employ the licensed dietitian, prescriber/psychiatrist, and other multidisciplinary staff, or may these services be provided through qualified subcontractors?

A16. Bidders may propose sub-contractors as part of their staffing structure.

Q17. What specific operational thresholds (such as minimum weekly contact hours or mandatory staffing combinations) must a "Specialized ED Service" meet to qualify for this pool, as distinct from standard behavioral health outpatient contracts?

A17. There are no set minimum contact hours for the Specialized ED Services, and Bidders may propose an operational structure that they believe best supports their desired outcomes.

Misc.

Q18. Does the County require specific certifications, such as the Certified Eating Disorders Specialist (CEDS), for clinicians to qualify under this contract? If so, will the County grant selected providers a designated grace period (e.g., 6 to 12 months post-award) to obtain these credentials, provided the staff already possess qualifying health professional licensures and direct experience serving this population?

A18. No, ACBHD does not require any specific certifications.

Q19. What performance measures, outcome measures, reporting frequency, data systems, record-retention requirements, and audit expectations will apply?

A19. At this time, ACBHD does not require any specific measures or reporting, outside the standard requirements of the Exhibit A-1¹ and Scope of Work.²

Q20. How does ACBHD define a 'material' change in staffing, deliverables, or outcomes that will lead to a bidder being rejected?

A20. This language on page 3 of the RFPQ refers to the contract, post-award. The resulting contract may not deviate substantially from the program proposed by the Bidder. It is up to ACBHD's discretion to determine what constitutes a material change.

¹ https://bhcsproviders.acgov.org/providers/network/docs/master_contracts/26-27/exhibit-a-1-mh-standard-requirements-fy26-27.pdf

² https://bhcsproviders.acgov.org/providers/network/docs/master_contracts/26-27/exhibit-a-p-sow-eating-disorder.pdf

Q21. Please name the current providers for this contract.

A21. Current Providers:

- Amrita Family Therapy, Inc. dba. Amrita Eating Disorder Treatment Center
- Alsana West – NorCal LLC
- Brentwood-Eating Disorder Treatment Center of California, LLC
– *Pending Board approval*
- Discovery Practice Management, Inc. dba Center for Discovery
- Cielomar Recovery Inc.
- Equip Health Medical, P.C.
- The Healthy Teen Project, Inc. – *Pending Board approval*
- Los Gatos Therapy Center Group
- The Lotus Collaborative, Inc., A Psychology Clinic dba The Lotus Collaborative
- Monte Nido Lake Vista, LLC
- Monte Nido Residential Center, LLC
- Sunol Hills, LLC

Q22. Which one of these we should be checking off as our other facility is going to be virtual PHP/IOP for adults and adolescent only?

Bidder is not local to Alameda County and is ineligible for any bid preference; or
Bidder is a certified SLEB and is requesting 10% bid preference; (Bidder must check the first box and provide its SLEB Certification Number in the SLEB PARTNERING INFORMATION SHEET); or

Bidder is LOCAL to Alameda County and is requesting 5% bid preference, and has attached the following documentation to this Exhibit:

- Copy of a verifiable business license, issued by the County of Alameda or a City within the County; and
- Proof of six (6) months business residency, identifying the name of the bidder and the local address. Utility bills, deed of trusts or lease agreements, etc., are acceptable verification documents to prove residency.

A22. This question references Exhibit A Bidder Information and Acceptance within the Bid Response Packet. Organizations providing virtual services and whose physical offices are located outside of Alameda County should choose option 1: Bidder is not local to Alameda County.